

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A first television apparatus, comprising:

means for transmitting information, a connection configured to be operatively coupled to
via a connection of an other television;

means for receiving information, via the connection; -and

a first processor associated with the transmitting means and the receiving means;

wherein the first processor is configured to provide peer-to-peer communication with a
second processor of a second television apparatus via the connection to allow a first person who
is watching the first television apparatus to determine what is being watched by a second person
on the second television apparatus, and to allow the second person to determine what is being
watched by the first person on the first television apparatus;

wherein, to allow the first person to determine what is being watched on the second
television apparatus: (a) the first processor transmits provide a query to the second processor, via
the connection, that requests -information requesting information regarding content identifying at
least one of content and channel that is currently watched on the second other television
apparatus, and (b) the first processor is configured to receive, via the connection, the requested
information regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus
from the second processor;

wherein the second processor is configured to provide the requested information
regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus responsive to
receipt of the query from the first processor; and

wherein, to allow the second person to determine what is being watched on the first television apparatus: (a) the first processor receives a query from the second processor, via the connection, that requests information regarding content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus, and (b) the first processor is configured to provide, via the connection, the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus, responsive to receipt of the query from the second processor.

~~and configured to automatically provide queried information identifying at least one of content and channel currently watched at said television in response to a query request from the other television.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The first television apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said first processor is configured to determine whether to comply with the query from the second processor by checking receive query compliance status information identifying if said which indicates whether the first processor television is setup to share the queried information with the second processor other television.

4. (Currently Amended) The first television apparatus of Claim 3, wherein:
said first processor is configured to receive identifying information from a user prior to enabling the user to do at least one of set and change the query compliance status information.

5. (Currently Amended) The first television apparatus of Claim 1 ~~[[3]]~~, wherein said first processor is configured to provide any queried information to the second processor other television that does not violate a the query compliance status of the second processor other television.

6. (Currently Amended) The first television apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said connection comprises at least is one of an in-home network connection and an Internet connection.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:
a plurality of ~~televisions~~ respective television apparatuses interconnected together in a peer-to-peer relationship;

wherein each of said respective television apparatuses includes means for transmitting information, means for receiving information, and a processor associated with the transmitting means and the receiving means;

wherein, for each of said respective television apparatuses, the respective processor is configured to provide peer-to-peer communication with a processor of any other one of the television apparatuses to allow a first person who is watching the respective television apparatus to determine what is being watched by a second person on the any other one of the television apparatuses, and to allow the second person to determine what is being watched by the first person on the respective television apparatus;

wherein, for each of said respective television apparatuses, to allow the first person to determine what is being watched on the any other one of the television apparatuses: (a) the respective processor transmits a query to the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses that requests information regarding content that is currently watched on the any other one of the television apparatuses, and (b) the respective processor is configured to receive the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the any other one of the television apparatuses from the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses;

wherein, for each of said respective television apparatuses, the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses is configured to provide the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the any other one of the television apparatuses responsive to receipt of the query from the respective processor; and

wherein, for each of said respective television apparatuses, to allow the second person to determine what is being watched on the respective television apparatus: (a) the respective processor receives a query from the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses that requests information regarding content that is currently watched on the respective television apparatus, and (b) the respective processor is configured to provide the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the respective television apparatus, responsive to receipt of the query from the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses.

~~televisions are configured to provide query information requesting information identifying at least one of content and channel currently watched on at least one other of said plurality of televisions and are configured to automatically provide queried information identifying at least one of content and channel currently watched in response to a query request from said others of said plurality of televisions.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 7, wherein
for each of said respective plurality of television apparatuses, the respective processor
~~televisions~~determines whether to comply with the query from the processor of the any other one
of the television apparatuses by checking receive-query compliance status information which
indicates whether the respective processor identifying if said each of said plurality of television
is setup to share queried information with the processor of the any other one of the television
apparatuses each other of said plurality of televisions.

9. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 8, wherein:
for each of said respective television apparatuses, the respective processor ~~each of said plurality of televisions~~ receives identifying information from a user prior to enabling the user to do at least one of set and change the query compliance status information.

10. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 7 ~~[[8]]~~, wherein:
for each of said respective television apparatuses, the respective processor ~~each of said plurality of televisions~~ is configured to provide any queried information to the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses ~~others of said plurality of televisions~~ that does not violate a the query compliance status of the processor of the any other one of the television apparatuses ~~said others of said plurality of televisions~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The communication system of Claim 7 ~~[[1]]~~, further comprising:
at least one of an in-home network connection and an Internet connection for interconnecting ~~wherein each of said plurality of television apparatuses televisions together in the peer-to-peer relationship are configured to be interconnected by one of an in-home network connection and an Internet connection.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications between first and second ~~a plurality of television apparatuses televisions~~, said method comprising:
connecting the first and second television apparatuses together in a peer-to-peer relationship;

configuring a processor of the first television apparatus to provide peer-to-peer communication with a second processor of the second television apparatus to allow a first person who is watching the first television apparatus to determine what is being watched by a second

person on the second television apparatus, and to allow the second person to determine what is being watched by the first person on the first television apparatus;

to allow the first person to determine what is being watched on the second television apparatus: (a) transmitting a query, from the first processor to the second processor, that requests information regarding content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus, and (b) configuring the first processor to receive the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus from the second processor;

configuring the second processor to provide the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus responsive to receipt of the query from the first processor; and

to allow the second person to determine what is being watched on the first television apparatus: (a) receiving, at the first processor, a query from the second processor that requests information regarding content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus, and (b) configuring the first processor to provide the requested information regarding the content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus, responsive to receipt of the query from the second processor.

~~a. sending a query request from any of said plurality of televisions to any other of said plurality of televisions requesting information identifying at least one of content and channel currently watched, and~~

~~b. sending queried information identifying at least one of content and channel currently watched from said any other of said plurality of televisions to said any of said plurality of televisions that sent the query request automatically in response to said query request.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 12, further comprising identifying each of said plurality of ~~television apparatuses~~ televisions to one another each other of said plurality of televisions prior to transmitting any queries act a.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 12 ~~[[13]]~~, wherein further comprising:

determining, at the first processor, whether to comply with the query from the second processor by checking said identifying comprises identifying a query compliance status information which indicates whether the first processor ~~between each of said plurality of televisions identifying if each of said plurality of television is~~ setup to share the queried information with the second processor each other of said plurality of televisions.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 12 ~~[[13]]~~, further comprising:
determining, at wherein said identifying is performed by a mediator that is separate from each of said plurality of first and second television apparatuses televisions, whether the first processor should comply with the query from the second processor, by checking query compliance status information which indicates whether the first processor is setup to share the queried information with the second processor.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 14 ~~[[12]]~~, further comprising:
receiving identifying information from a user prior to enabling the user to do at least one of set and change the query compliance status information ~~confirming a query compliance status of said any of said plurality of televisions that sent the query request prior to performing act b~~ and not sending queried information if said query violates said query compliance status, wherein said query compliance status information identifies if said any other of said televisions is setup to share queried information with said any of said plurality of televisions.

Claims 17-20: (Cancelled)

21. (New) The first television apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the first television apparatus; and

the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the second television apparatus.

22. (New) The first television apparatus of claim 3, wherein:

the query compliance status information is set so that the first processor does not comply with the query from the second processor when the second person is a child, and content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus comprises mature content.

23. (New) The communication system of claim 7, wherein:

for each of said respective television apparatuses, the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the respective television apparatus comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the respective television apparatus; and

the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the any other one of the television apparatuses comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the any other one of the television apparatuses.

24. (New) The communication system of claim 8, wherein:

for each of said respective television apparatuses, the query compliance status information is set so that the respective processor does not comply with the query from the any other one of the processors when the second person is a child, and content that is currently

watched on the respective television apparatus comprises mature content.

25. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein:

the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the first television apparatus comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the first television apparatus; and

the information regarding the content that is currently watched on the second television apparatus comprises at least one of a sample thereof and an indication of a channel tuned by the second television apparatus.